

Department of Public Safety  
408-730-7288

March 6, 2003

Deborah Biggs, General Manager  
Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority  
1405 Civic Center Drive  
Santa Clara, CA 95050

Dear Ms. Biggs,

Based on all of the information we have regarding SVACA sheltering options and animal shelter alternatives held by the City of Sunnyvale, the City Manager has informed us that he will be making a recommendation regarding animal shelter service providers to our City Council at its March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. The March 31<sup>st</sup> due date remains a key action point for the City of Sunnyvale. In addition, the City of Palo Alto has requested written confirmation regarding Sunnyvale's shelter plans by May 15, 2003.

As you know, the City of Palo Alto has submitted an animal-sheltering plan to Sunnyvale, which was approved by its City Council on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The details of this plan were distributed to our entire City Council several weeks ago and it was made available to the public at its Animal Shelter Alternatives Study Session held on February 25<sup>th</sup>. A summary of the services to be provided by Palo Alto Animal Services accompanies this letter.

We are also in receipt of your SVACA Sheltering Options tables distributed to the SVACA Board of Directors at its February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. The labeling of the tables as "for discussion only" is consistent with our understanding that these options are not final, nor Board approved. However, they do represent the most current and we will assume that they are best options that SVACA has to offer at this time.

Given the above, the City Manager has instructed staff to prepare this letter informing you of the impending animal shelter recommendation to be made to Sunnyvale's City Council. He has also asked staff to inform you that the "report to council" will include the February 24<sup>th</sup> SVACA information for comparative purposes and to let you know that we can modify this information, provided that we receive any updates by March 12<sup>th</sup>. On this date the animal shelter report will be in its final edit stage and will be submitted for posting and distribution to the City's standard media outlets in order to meet Brown Act requirements.

This report represents the third presentation to our City Council on this subject since we were informed of the cost of SVACA's proposed new building in August of 2002. The two prior reports (September and October) included the building plans and costs for the \$8.035 million version of the shelter. The SVACA options dated February 24<sup>th</sup> will be included in this third and final report to Council. We encourage you to take whatever steps you feel necessary to finalize your numbers and assumptions for these or any other shelter option, as these are the ones that will be included for discussion, unless we hear from you otherwise. Further, in the event that one or more of the SVACA sheltering options is modified and/or officially adopted by your Board, we encourage you to incorporate cost control caps or guarantees of some sort concerning operating costs and capital expenditures.

The purpose in sending this letter to you is to encourage you to provide us with the best and most current information possible. It is our obligation to our City Council to make certain that it is in the best possible position to make an informed decision regarding this topic. We also need you to know that time is running out. All parties involved in this on-going discussion as early as October have known the alternative proposals the City of Sunnyvale has before it. During this entire period no more viable alternative has emerged from SVACA other than the "discussion only" items offered last week. At this point in time we have to assume that this document represents your current and best effort regarding SVACA's animal shelter plans.

The City Manager also encourages you to attend the Sunnyvale City Council meeting scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> to articulate SVACA's shelter plan and cost structure.

Very Sincerely,

David R. Johnson,  
Senior Management Analyst

cc: Dave Anderson, City Manager, City of Saratoga  
Irwin Bakin, Director, Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety  
Mary Bradley, Director, Sunnyvale Department of Finance  
Debra Figone, Town Manager, Town of Los Gatos  
Frederick Fowler, Sunnyvale Councilman and SVACA Board member  
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